

**To:** Meer, Daniel[Meer.Daniel@epa.gov]; Guria, Peter[Guria.Peter@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Maier, Brent[Maier.Brent@epa.gov]  
**From:** Serda, Sophia  
**Sent:** Mon 2/8/2016 11:33:55 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Exide: Question Regarding Lead from Congressman Xavier Becerra Staffer

Dan and Pete,

Lead in water is more toxic than lead in soil - for infants who are feed formula made with tap water. In soil the new OLEM lead policy uses the IEBUK model, a physiological based model, and a blood lead level of 5. In water - the MCLG is zero with an action level of 15 ppb (not health based). Also the bioavailability for lead in water is nearly 100% versus the bioavailability for lead in soil much like 60%.

Hope this helps, Thanks Sophia

**From:** Meer, Daniel  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 12:44 PM  
**To:** Guria, Peter <Guria.Peter@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Serda, Sophia <Serda.Sophia@epa.gov>; Reyes, Deldi <Reyes.Deldi@epa.gov>; Maier, Brent <Maier.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Exide: Question Regarding Lead from Congressman Xavier Becerra Staffer  
**Importance:** High

Pete and Sophia

At the bottom of this email thread is a message from a congressional staffer with some questions about lead in soil versus lead in drinking water.

Sophia – can you take a look at the questions and draft up some possible responses. Some of the questions we might have to refer to colleagues in R5, as they specifically ask for Flint, MI related information (ie, is there an ‘official’ lead level for Flint. But the more general questions

regarding lead levels in soil versus drinking water we might be able to answer.

Before we send anything off, let's discuss internally whether it would be better to set up a call and provide the answers that way, as opposed to putting something in writing.

Thanks, Dan

Daniel A. Meer, Assistant Director

Superfund Division

Emergency Response, Preparedness and Prevention Branch

415.972.3132 (O)

415.971.6792 (C)

**From:** Maier, Brent

**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 12:09 PM

**To:** Reyes, Deldi

**Cc:** Huetteman, Tom; Meer, Daniel; Li, Corine; Macler, Bruce

**Subject:** Exide: Question Regarding Lead from Congressman Xavier Becerra Staffer

**Importance:** High

Deldi –

Please see the following message from Irvin De La O in Congressman Becerra's office. I spoke with Irvin and the Congressman tasked him with following up on the questions in his message below. The questions involve lead contamination in water and soil and wanting a characterization and comparison to this issue occurring in Flint, Michigan. Please let me know who you and others feel it would be best to respond to his message. Thanks.

Brent Maier

Congressional Liaison

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

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San Francisco, CA 94105

Ph: 415.947.4256

**From:** De La O, Irvin [<mailto:Irvin.DeLaO@mail.house.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 9:30 AM  
**To:** Maier, Brent <[Maier.Brent@epa.gov](mailto:Maier.Brent@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Saldivar, Liz <[Liz.Saldivar@mail.house.gov](mailto:Liz.Saldivar@mail.house.gov)>; Jimenez, Gemma <[Gemma.Jimenez@mail.house.gov](mailto:Gemma.Jimenez@mail.house.gov)>; Montiel, Johanna <[Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov](mailto:Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov)>  
**Subject:** Question regarding lead

Hi Brent,

I have a few questions regarding lead contamination and hoping the EPA can help me answer them. I want to make an assessment to the different types of lead contamination found in water and soil. I understand Flint's situation is due to the water being contaminated by lead, so I want to see how that compares to the soil contamination in Exide's case. Which one is more health hazardous and why? Do the screening levels vary because one is water and the other is soil? If so, what are those screening levels for each one? Do you have any official lead levels for Flint? Please let me know if this is something the EPA can help me answer or guide me towards the appropriate source that can best help in answering this.

Thank you,

**Irvin De La O** | Field Deputy

[Congressman Xavier Becerra \(CA-34\)](#)

Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus

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